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5-13-02 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark T. Girard et al.	Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/073,600	Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: February 11, 2002	
For: HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY METHOD	Docket No. AKI0004/US/2

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Barbara A. Avery
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following preliminary amendment. No fees are believed to be required in connection with the filing of this paper. Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and thereafter notify us of the same.

In The Claims

Please amend claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 10 to read as follows:

1. A method of assembling a head gimbal assembly comprising the following steps performed in the following order:

attaching a head/slider having at least one termination pad to a flex circuit having at least one electrical lead to produce a head/slider circuited gimbal assembly having at least one static angle;

electrically connecting the at least one termination pad of the head/slider to the at least one electrical lead of the flex circuit; and

attaching the head/slider circuited gimbal assembly to a suspension having at least one static angle.

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